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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/049,207	06/14/2002	Makoto. Okazaki	MTS-3307US	8093
7590	04/12/2005		EXAMINER	
Ratner & Prestia Suite 301 One Westlakes Berwyn P O Box 980 Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980			HUBER, PAUL W	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2653	

DATE MAILED: 04/12/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/049,207	OKAZAKI ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Paul Huber	2653	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 June 2002.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) 1-28 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION***Election/Restrictions***

Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1-8, 18/1-8, 19, 20, 24 and 25, drawn to a buffer memory address translation device, an optical disk drive, a medium, or a program.

Group II, claim(s) 9, 18/9, 21 and 26, drawn to a sector address information reliability determination device, an optical disk drive, a medium, or a program.

Group III, claim(s) 10-16, 18/10-16, 22 and 27, drawn to a defective sector determination device, an optical disk drive, a medium, or a program.

Group IV, claim(s) 17, 18/17, 23 and 28, drawn to an ECC block synchronization detection device, an optical disk drive, a medium, or a program.

The inventions listed as Groups I-IV do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

- 1) Group I does not require a sector address information reliability determination device as required by Group II, and Group II does not require a buffer memory address translation device for storing read data in a region corresponding to a generated address in the buffer memory as required by Group I;
- 2) Group I does not require a defective sector determination device as required by Group III, and Group III does not require a buffer memory address translation device for storing read data in a region corresponding to a generated address in the buffer memory as required by Group I;
- 3) Group I does not require an ECC block synchronization detection device as required by Group IV, and Group IV does not require a buffer memory address translation device for storing read data in a region corresponding to a generated address in the buffer memory as required by Group I;
- 4) Group II does not require a defective sector determination device as required by Group III, and Group III does not require a sector address information reliability determination device as required by Group II;
- 5) Group II does not require an ECC block synchronization detection device as required by Group IV, and Group IV does not require a sector address information reliability determination device as required by Group II; and
- 6) Group III does not require an ECC block synchronization detection device as required by Group IV, and Group IV does not require a defective sector determination device as required by Group III.

A telephone call was not made to the applicants' representative to request an oral election to the above restriction requirement due to the nature of the application, e.g., foreign applicants, and the need for the examiner to promptly act on the application.

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Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul Huber whose telephone number is 571-272-7588. The examiner can normally be reached on Compressed Schedule, every Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Korzuch can be reached on 571-272-7589. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Paul Huber
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2653

pwh
April 7, 2005